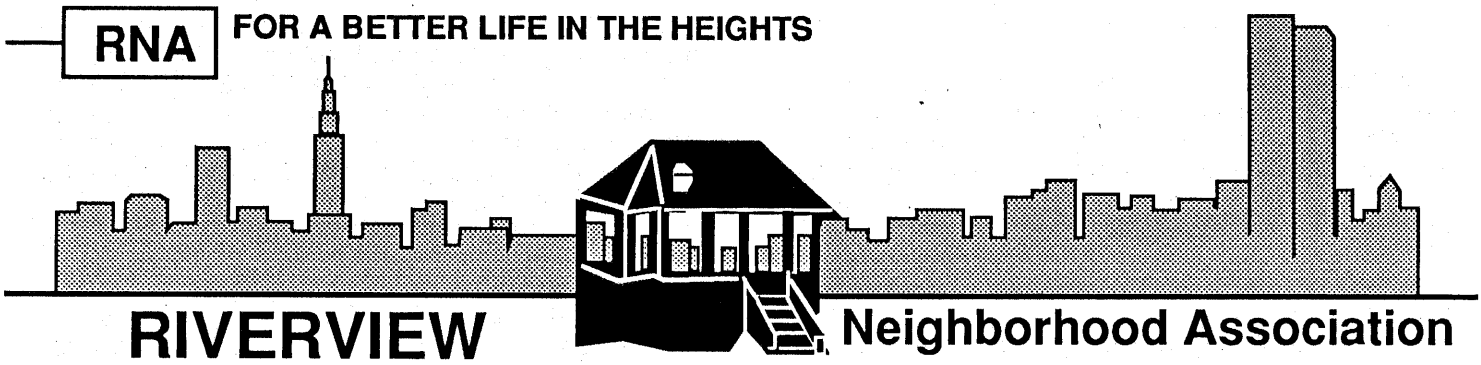
RNA FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS



RIVERVIEW Neighborhood Association

November, 1996

232 Ogden Avenue - Jersey City, N.J. 07307 - (201) 798-0493

RNA IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY POLITICAL PARTY, ORGANIZATION OR ELECTED OFFICIAL

HARBOR VIEW HOLIDAY PARTY

On **Friday, November 22th**, RNA will hold its annual Holiday celebration for the residents of the Harbor View Health Care Center. The party will start at 1:30 PM, after the resident's lunch, with RNA serving desert, including cake and soft drinks. Musical entertainment and dancing will be provided with pianist Frank Fraga. Robert Boesch will dress-up as Santa Claus for the residents.

Organizers Valerie and Jack Rea and Maria Tuzzo, are looking for volunteers to help with this event and spend some quality time with our senior neighbors. Sugar-free baked goods - preferably home-made - are needed. (Please use throw away pans or dishes.)

This year RNA is looking for donations of small stuffed animals and dolls as well as complementary-size toilet articles - men's and women's - to make up holiday baskets for the residents. Please bring these items to the next meeting on November 12th.

Please contribute in any way you can - volunteering time, baked goods or gifts - for this worthy cause. It is RNA's way of thanking our neighbors at Harbor View for letting us hold our meetings in their house.

Please circle the following items you can provide for our party and return this form at the next meeting:

1) **VOLUNTEER TO WORK** 2) **TOILET ARTICLES**

3) **BAKED GOODS** 4) **STUFFED ANIMAL/DOLL**

NAME: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

HOLIDAY FOOD & TOY DRIVE

RNA is once again organizing its holiday drive for dry and/or canned goods and new and/or used toys. Monetary contributions can also be made and will be used to purchase either food or toys. All contributions will be given to the Salvation Army for distribution during the holiday season. Items can be brought to the next two RNA meetings or arrangements can be made to drop them off with Maria Tuzzo at 659-2245. Please give generously to those that are less fortunate.

A GOOD FRIEND WILL BE MISSED

Gert Bogdan, one of RNA's most enthusiastic members, passed away during the month of October. She was one of the original organizers of our annual flea market in Riverview-Fisk Park. This month's edition of the newsletter will be dedicated to her memory. The following tributes are personal memories from RNA members of a grand lady who will be greatly missed in her community. [A vote will be taken at the November meeting to make a donation in her memory to a cancer research organization.]

Maria Tuzzo: My most vivid remembrance of Gert Bogdan is early morning on Flea Market Day. Fred, Gert's husband, would drive up to the Park site and Gert would alight from the car with her red hair perfectly made up, dressed in blue cotton pants, smock top and comfortable shoes. That was the first and last time during the entire day that Gert seemed relaxed. The rest of the day she was busy, organizing the sale of the cake and coffee, the meatball sandwiches and soda and in general, being a good will ambassador for RNA.

Gert's vast experience with flea markets in and around our area, made her a valuable asset to have on the RNA committee. Gert enticed many of the vendors to Riverview-Fisk Park from other flea markets. Gert made sure she said hello to as many vendors as possible, making rounds during the day to say a word or two to each vendor and to greet those she knew personally with a "thank you " for coming to support RNA. Her organization and enthusiam helped make our day a success each year.

Gert will be missed by all who knew and loved her. We at RNA will be hard pressed to find another member who can fill her "comfortable shoes" and who will dedicate themselves to their community as whole heartedly as she did.

Valerie Rea:

Gert was fun
She was a ray of sun
She always would bake
Now she's making angel food cake
She was loved and will be missed
By everyone.

(continued on page two)

(**In Memory of Gert Bogdan** contd from page one)

Jack Rea: Sadly missed, but not forgotten, I got to know Gert very well and worked with her at all our flea markets and Harbor View holiday parties. She was even-tempered and was easy to get along with. She came prepared with all the necessary items. People couldn't wait when she put out her spread of different homemade cakes. I know she will be missed by all.

Madeline Rea:

I'm dedicating the month of November
to the memory of Gert Bogdan.
It is a month of All Souls - May she rest in peace.
We are at a loss when a good member is gone.
We all have a lot to be thankful for having known "Gert."
Happy Thanksgiving.

DUMPSTER CLEANUP WEEKEND:

RNA has arranged with the Jersey City Incinerator Authority to provide two dumpsters on the weekend of **November15-18**. The dumpsters will be placed on **Ferry Street** and on **South Street, between Ogden and Palisade Avenues**.

These dumpsters are for all residents in the community to discard large items that cannot be placed in their regular weekly garbage pick-ups. There are several rules that should be observed: a) no commercial debris; b) pack items to maximize the space; and c) do not place garbage too high or on the sides of the dumpsters.

LEAF PICK-UP

The Jersey City Incinerator Authority will pick-up your leaves during the next two months. All leaves must be placed in the brown biodegradable bags available free-of-charge to all residents.

These bags are available locally at the following locations: the Municipal Building at 325 Palisade Avenue, Garden State News at the corner of Central Avenue and Bowers Street and Swenson Realty on Central Avenue. Bags can also be picked up at our November 12th meeting or by calling Maria Tuzzo at 659-2245.

The pick-up dates for our neighborhood and the North District are the following Thursdays:

November 7 **November 21**
December 5 **December 19.**

Please put out the bags the night before the pick-up. For more information, call the JCIA at 432-4645.

PALISADE AVENUE TREESCAPE PROGRAM

Planting for this project, originally scheduled for spring of 1996, is scheduled to begin during the first two weeks of November. The following 35 Palisade Ave. addresses will have trees planted: 371, 382, 387, 419, 421, 441, 451, 499, 501, 503, 507, 510, 516, 519, 524, 530, 531, 538, 554, 557, 561, 579, 592, 594, 602.5, 606, 608, 613, 614, 615, 637, 640, 651, 660, and 664.

The trees to be planted will be prunus kwanzan, or ornamental, cherry trees. This variety was chosen for its suitability to an urban sidewalk environment; they bear no fruit and have a small root base. The new trees will be 12-14 feet in height, with a 2.5-3.5 inch diameter. The trees will mature to approximately 20-25 feet in height with a spread of 15-20 feet. In the early spring they blossom with a pink flower. Each tree will be protected by an iron tree guard and a rain grate.

The treescape program is a federally funded CDBG project to provide free tree plantings on Palisade Avenue between Franklin Street and Paterson Plank Road. If any property owner is interested in having a free tree with guard and grate installed in front of their property, please contact RNA or come to our next meeting. Another tree planting is scheduled for the spring of 1997.

MEETING MINUTES: for October 8, 1996

RNA had the following speakers at its October 8th meeting: Leon Yost of the Pro Arts Mural Team, Jersey City Council members Nancy Gaynor and Bill Gaughan, NID Managers Ufredo Merchan and Bill Rodolfos, as well as Community Service Police Officers Mark Conroy and Keith Armstrong.

MURAL PROJECT: Leon Yost described the mural program beginning this year in Jersey City, which is a joint project of **Pro Arts**, a professional organization for visual artists in the Jersey City area, and the Jersey City Economic Development Corporation.

The program will paint wall murals throughout the City but the federal funding requires the sites to be in Urban Enterprise Zones. The pilot project is a block-long site, 10 buildings, on Christopher Columbus Drive, between Grove and Barrow. This will be one of the largest murals in the country, and perhaps the largest east of the Mississippi. Preparation work begins this fall, and painting will start in May of 1997.

The work will be done by Jersey City artists and 8 interns. The project is funded with grant money, and includes 20% matching funds. As of this date, the program has obtained pledges for all but 8%, and is still soliciting sponsors. It costs $10 to sponsor a foot long section of the mural; sponsors will be named on a plaque on the completed site. [RNA will vote at the November meeting to become a sponsor for this pilot mural.]

Future sites are now being considered for other murals, including the storage tanks near the Liberty Science Center and several railroad overpasses in the Clty. The site being considered in the Heights, is the Fidelity Bank wall adjacent to the municipal parking lot on Central Avenue.

CITY COUNCIL UPDATE: Councilpersons **Nancy Gaynor**, of Ward C, and **Bill Gaughan**, of Ward D, gave updates on projects in our area.

Ms. Gaynor spoke about the Journal Square Plaza renovation; permit parking in the Sgt. Anthony Park neighborhood; Palisade Avenue bridge repairs; traffic light changes at Palisade & State Highway; youth curfews; and the NID program.

Mr. Gaughan spoke about development projects including the senior housing project at Summit & Paterson Plank Road; the completion of the St. Joseph's residency on Summit Ave; Mountain Road and Holland Street renovations; the closing of the Doric apartment's parking garage and the effect on street parking in the area, including the possible reactivation of the Ogden North Neighborhood Association and permit parking for our area; 'Jersey City First' hiring rules; and the Central Ave. Improvement District's sidewalk renovation.

The two council members addressed the following questions: stemming the loss of 'good' businesses and attracting new ones on Central Avenue; status of a proposal for a new fire station at Congress and Palisade, on the site of the former Exxon station; water contamination and the lack of notification to citizens during the recent shut-down of the Boonton treatment plant; the recent Council resolution about the parking zone in front of the Harbor View; new metered lots off Central Ave; problems and poor service with United Water, including their meter readings and billing procedures; repeated auto break-ins on Cuneo Place; hazardous construction, including welding of large girders, in front of 234-236 Ogden Avenue, without permits or protection; parking changes on Woods Place to accommodate the narrowing of the street, and the increased traffic on that block.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT:
Community Service Officers: Police Officers **Mark Conroy** and **Keith Armstrong** are the Community Service officers assigned to the new NID north of Griffith. After they introduced themselves to the group, they took questions and comments. A streetlight outage at 173 Odgen, resulted in dark sidewalks; the officers agreed to make extra passes through that block until the light is repaired. Another complaint concerned a belligerent resident at 255 Ogden who played loud music at night and kept neighborhood children awake; attempts to speak with the resident had resulted in abusive language.

NID MANAGERS: Billy Rodolfos is the new NID manager for the neighborhood that compasses Ogden and Palisade Avenues between Griffith and Congress Streets. Ufredo Merchan, our original NID manager oversees our community of Ogden and Palisade Avenues between Griffith Street and Cuneo Place. The NID managers' new working hours are 12 Noon to 7:30 PM, five days a week. **Billy Rodolfos** can be reached through his voice mail, **547-4974, extension 8021**. **Ufredo Merchan** can be reached through his voice mail, **547-4974, extension 8015**.

The NID managers reported progress in getting residents to leash their dogs, limiting loud music, and getting potholes fixed. A work order was submitted for the cleanup of Holland street and the cliffside. The area around NY Ave / Ravine Road had been cleaned up. Billy and Ufredo agreed to help with the neighborhood zoning survey. A complaint was made about the fire hydrant next to the community garden to allow water to be hosed into the garden. Another complaint was that a streetlight is needed at the intersection of Congress Street and Paterson Plank Road.

Cathy Packard, Secretary

☞ RECYCLE! IT's the LAW!

LETTER to the EDITOR

HOW MUCH IS A NEIGHBORHOOD EXPECTED TO TAKE?

On several occasions, a business in our neighborhood (M & M Plumbing, located at the corner of Palisade Avenue and Bowers Street) has been told by the police not to let their dogs run loose in our Riverview-Fisk Park. For a while, I think that we were under impression that they had complied with the request. But alas! They only changed the times that they allow these animals to run loose. It used to be between 7:00 and 7:30 AM, but now it seems to be between the hours of 8:00 and 8:30 AM. Also, they are let loose in the later afternoon before this business closes for the night. I, myself, almost hit one of the dogs one afternoon on my way home from work as it crossed Ogden Avenue.

These dogs are not only a bother to anyone walking their pets but on occasion they have been observed defecating and urinating on private property on the northern section of Ogden Avenue. Also, some female dogs in our neighborhood are in season and these two loose male dogs are creating some very stressful times for the female dog owners. What is it going to take to get M & M Plumbing to comply with the warnings given by the police?

Carol Rebelowski

GREG BAUMGART
POINTLESS

NOVEMBER 4 - 30, 1996
OPENING RECEPTION
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10, 1-4 PM

WATCHUNG ARTS CENTER
18 STIRLING ROAD
WATCHUNG NJ 07060
908-753-0190
HOURS: MON-SAT 1-4 PM

Bulletin board

LIBERTY STATE PARK CONSERVANCY SURVEY

On the following two pages you will find a survey which the Liberty State Conservancy is circulating to solicit public opinion on the future development of Liberty State Park.

Ten million dollars in Green Acre funds will be made available to the Park. How should it be spent to serve a diversity of public needs? Please fill out this survey and let the powers that be know your wishes regarding this natural treasure in our own back yard.

CIRCLE OF GREEN ART AUCTION

RNA will be a sponsor of the second Circle of Green Art Auction to be held on **Saturday, November 23, 1996 from 5:00 to 9:00 PM at City Hall.** All money raised by this art auction will be distributed between the participating groups to spend on gardening projects for their individual Parks and gardens. For more information or to volunteer, please call 433-5127.

From Valerie's Kitchen:

Glazed Turkey with Orange Sauce

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 Pound boneless Turkey Breast Slices
- 1 Cup orange Juice
- 1 Tbsp.. vegetable oil
- 3 Tbsp. Honey
- 1 Tbsp. French Dijon Mustard
- 1 Tsp. Ground Ginger
- 1/2 Tsp. Seasoned Salt
- 1/8 Tsp. Ground Cloves
- 1 Orange, peeled & sectioned
- 2 Green Onions, thinly sliced

1) Heat oil in large skillet over high heat.
2) Saute Turkey until browned on both sides, 5 minutes.
3) Remove Turkey from pan and keep warm.
4) Add juice, honey, mustard and seasonings to pan.
5) Bring to a boil, simmer, stirring frequently over medium heat until slightly thickened, 8 to 10 minutes.
6) Add orange sections, green onion and Turkey.
7) Cook until heated through.

RNA MEMBERSHIP entitles you to nine issues of our newsletter, and if you live within the boundaries, voting privileges in the organization. Please support RNA by paying your **$5.00** dues at the next meeting, or send a check, payable to RNA, to 232 Ogden Avenue.

CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR NEWSLETTER

Drop off holiday articles, comments or recipes in the mailbox, attached to the gate, at 232 Ogden Ave. Mark the envelope, "RNA NEWSLETTER." The next deadline is **Friday, NOVEMBER 22, 1996.**

POLICEBEAT

Residents can contact their **Community Service Police Officers Scott Schnee and Lorenzo Tosado** or **Mark Conroy and Keith Armstrong** if they have a problem, a safety concern or knowledge of criminal activity at **547-5350** (the North District station's frontdesk) or **547-5719** (community service number). When leaving a message, include your name, telephone number, street address, the nature of the problem and a date and time of the message.

In addition, anyone with information about illegal drug use and/or drug dealing, should contact the JCPD Narcotics Unit at 547-5391. Ask to speak to Sgt. Jimmy Melendez of the North District. All calls will be strictly confidential.

A **Community Service Survey** form is reprinted below. The purpose of the form is to alert the police to particular chronic problems in our neighborhood. Please fill the form out and mail it to the North District at 282 Central Avenue. (You can remain anonymous.)

JERSEY CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
NORTH DISTRICT
282 Central Avenue, Jersey City, 07307
547-5350: Front Desk
547-5719: Community Service

Community Service Survey

Residence_____School_____Business_____
Name:_____ CSO Post#_____
Address:_____ CSO Name:_____
Home Phone (optional):_____
Business/School Phone:_____

PROBLEMS/CONCERNS:

Disorderly Groups_____	Drug Activity_____
Loud Music_____	Abandoned Bldg_____
Traffic Conditions_____	Abandoned Cars_____
Parking Complaints_____	Noise Complaints_____
Animal Complaints_____	Other(Specify below)__

Other Problems: _____
_____
Locations:_____
_____
Comments:_____
_____

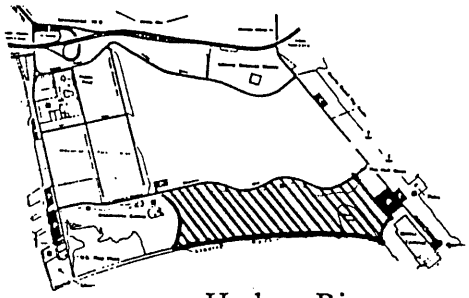
NEWSLETTER STAFF

EDITOR: Vito Brunetti
CONTRIBUTORS: C.M. Archer, Greg Brickey, Kathy Packard, Jack Rea, Madeline Rea, Valerie Rea, Maria Tuzzo, Rosemary Venter, Patrick Moore
GRAPHICS: Russell Pratt, Raquel Sweeney
CIRCULATION: Jack Rea, Maria Tuzzo

SEE YOU AT OUR NEXT MEETING ON November 12th at 7:15 PM at the HARBOR VIEW HEALTH CARE CENTER.

Liberty State Park
Shorefront Park Development Survey
by the Liberty State Park Conservancy

Below is a map of Liberty State Park (LSP). The shorefront park area marked by slanted lines is to be developed with $10 million of Green Acres funds.* This survey seeks to determine the public's priorities and preferences regarding how these funds should be spent.

South  North

Hudson River

1. As noted above, $10 million is to be spent on development of this area. Either the full amount can go toward developing the shorefront park, or some portion of the funds can be used to further develop the Central Railroad of NJ Terminal so that events can be held there throughout the year (i.e., install heating and air conditioning). *Circle (a) or (b):*

(a) All $10 million should go toward the shorefront park development.
(b) Up to $5 million should be spent to further develop the CRRNJ Terminal.

2. The preliminary plans call for making this area into a green park where people can enjoy unobstructed views of the Statue of Liberty. Which of the following items you would like to see in this shorefront park? *Circle your answer for each of the six items below:*

(a) trees and lawns	yes	no	uncertain
(b) wildflower meadows	yes	no	uncertain
(c) children's playground	yes	no	uncertain
(d) statues	yes	no	uncertain
(e) picnic area	yes	no	uncertain
(f) additional parking	yes	no	uncertain
(g) other - list:			

3. A statue of Christopher Columbus was donated for placement in the park. Should the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) that oversees the State Parks establish criteria for artistic coordination to ensure that donations of art works are consistent with Liberty State Park's history and use? *Circle (a) or (b):*

(a) Yes, criteria should be established for donations of art.
(b) No, criteria are not needed.

---

* Development of the rest of Liberty State Park will proceed at a later time after remediation of toxic sites. While not endorsing any of the NJDEP's plans for toxic remediation, the Conservancy will continue to monitor all such plans in the development of the shorefront park area and other areas in the park.

4. Please give us your comments and ideas concerning the development of the shorefront park (use another sheet of paper if necessary):

Thank you for participating in this survey. This is one way of ensuring that the public can more fully participate in planning the development of your own Liberty State Park. The LSP Conservancy will tabulate the results of this survey and make them available to the public. The NJDEP will be holding public forums on the development plans early this Autumn.

Please send your completed survey to:

Liberty State Park Conservancy, Inc.
P. O. Box 17068
Jersey City, NJ 07307-7068

If you would like to become a member of the LSP Conservancy, please send us a check made payable to the Liberty State Park Conservancy for $15 for individual membership or $10 for senior/student membership along with your name, address, and phone number.

Your annual dues will bring you: 1) voting rights; 2) our Newsletter; and 3) announcements that will inform you of important Park issues, ways you can help your Park, and fun and educational events at LSP. The dues will also help meet our costs in protecting the Park for future generations. Additional donations will be greatly appreciated.

Name: _____

Address: _____

(Though optional, your name and address will help us validate this survey and shed light on how residents of different areas view the development of LSP.)

M. SASSO
201-420-7240

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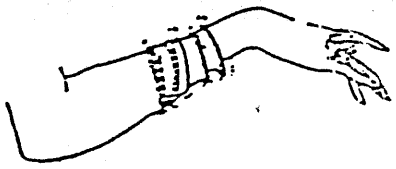

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Fax 201 330-1434

MLS

Meet Your Neighbors at the next RNA meeting on
Tuesday, NOVEMBER 12th at 7:15 PM

FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

HAPPY
THANKSGIVING
TO ALL OUR
Neighbors, Members
and Friends

RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
232 OGDEN AVENUE
JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY 07307

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RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

RNA

Vito Brunetti
Chairperson

Greg Brickey
Vice-chairperson

Kathy Packard
Secretary

Jack Rea
Treasurer

Carol Rebelowski
Sgt. at Arms

COMING EVENTS

RNA MEETING: Tuesday, November 12th at 7:15 PM
LOCATION: THE HARBOR VIEW HEALTH CARE CENTER
Group Discussion: Evaluation of RNA's 1996 projects and proposals for 1997 activities and new projects

Harbor View Holiday Party: Friday, Nov. 22nd: 1:30 PM
RNA needs volunteers, baked goods and stuffed toys

DUMPSTER WEEKEND: November 15-17: Two dumpsters located at South and Ferry Streets betw. Palisade and Ogden Avenues for residential garbage

LEAF PICK-UP: November 7 & 21 and December 5 & 19

Palisade Treescape Program: Trees planted during the first two weeks of November along the Avenue